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ELECTION LAW VIOLATION SETTLEMENT

City Attorney's Office Settles Lawsuit

With Peter Navarro For \$4,000

Former San Diego mayoral candidate Peter Navarro has paid \$4,000 in civil penalties and costs to settle an election law enforcement action brought by the Public Integrity Section of the San Diego City Attorney's Office.

The lawsuit alleged that during the summer of 1995, Navarro received a \$189,000 loan from one Evelyn Littlejohn and repaid approximately \$189,000 that he had borrowed from the Bank of America during his 1992 mayoral campaign. The complaint alleged that Navarro violated the City's Election Campaign Control Ordinance (ECCO) by failing to timely file with the City Clerk a copy of the Littlejohn loan agreement. City law requires copies of the loan agreements to be filed within five days of the execution of the agreement or the receipt of the loan proceeds, whichever occurs first. The complaint also alleged that Navarro violated the State's Political Reform Act by failing, in his bi-annual campaign committee statement, to report required information pertaining to the source, terms and other specifics about both the Littlejohn loan and the repayment of the Bank of America loan.

Navarro cooperated with the Public Integrity Section in its investigation and also filed amended campaign statements that addressed the illegal nondisclosures. Under the terms of the stipulated San Diego Superior Court judgment, Navarro was also permanently enjoined from violating campaign laws in the future. Both the alleged violations and their underlying behavior were separate and distinct from any prior campaign violations involving Navarro.

The investigation originated with a written citizen complaint to the City Attorney's office. Those who suspect violations of campaign law may notify the City Attorney's office via the Public Integrity Hotline at 235-5888.

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